

To: Chairperson Schubart and Trustees
From: Chief Tom Bremner
Date: December 19th / 2011
Sub: SSIFR Monthly Report (November/2011)



- Our website; www.saltspringfire.com continues to be updated on a regular basis, and we encourage people to visit our site. We also have a large group of followers on CFSI and our Facebook and Twitter sites as well as the Salt Spring Community Exchange, which focuses on public announcements and information.
- Members continued to be busy this month with training, work duties and calls for assistance. The SSIFR responded to **41 calls for assistance**.

Response types were:

First Responder	13
Hydro	11
Complaints	3
Haz-Mat	1
Motor Vehicle Incidents	4
Alarms	5
Structure Fires	1
Public Assists	3

- Our American LaFrance pumper is in Abbotsford at the ALF representative BC dealer's shop being repaired in aims for a January return back to service on Salt Spring
- The Chief's annual fire service personnel reviews with each individual member began in November and will conclude by December 21 / 2011

Training Division report:

- Our regular members put in 542 hours on Tuesday nights through-out the month on the following topics: First Responder, Auto X, Rapid Intervention, Tactical Post Incident Reviews and Water Supply.
- An additional 464 hours were put in on such courses as Live Fire in Otter Point and Officer Training in Esquimalt.
- Our recruits finished up their required training with Fire Control 1 & 2 and wrote their final exams. With all of their first year requirements complete the training branch have signed off on the recruits and forward them to the Chief to complete their recruit year and begin the next journey in the fire service.

➤ **Fire Inspection / Prevention Division report:**

Commercial Inspections	21
Commercial Re-inspection	0
Responses to Emergencies	30
Category 3 Burn Pile Inspections	11
Review of Fire Safety Plans	3
Car Child-Seat Installs	1
Lockbox Installation	0
Battery Smoke Alarm requests	1
Public Information / Training	0
Public Education Tours	1 Session
Subdivision / Plan Reviews	3
Water Storage Tank Reviews	1
Provincial Licensing Inspections	0
Burning Permits issued to date	1800
Fire Alarm System Test	1
Fire Safety Plan Reviews	1
Paperwork / Administration	Endless



- Another busy month for the Prevention/Inspection division. Several of the complaints that we have dealt with during the month have been vastly different than the norm. We have dealt with a hoarding issue in a residential building. This is now a major concern for the Fire Service across North America. We will work closely with local health officials, local law enforcement and whoever else may have a stake in these matters, to find resolutions on an individual basis. This is a huge problem that is not going to go away.
- There have been complaints from residents in local residential complexes, in regards to parking, and cluttering up the entrances to areas with vehicles. The concern of course is access, and we will continue to work with other agencies and residents involved to hopefully find a resolution to these issues.
- We have been working with a local developer to have the water system upgraded to an existing development. The preliminary work is in place, and again we will be assisting with engineers to finalize this.
- We hosted Fire Chief for a Day. Five lucky kids, (one from each elementary school) were picked up in a fire apparatus and taken to school. As well, they all enjoyed lunch with the Chief and day time staff. This was a big success with all the kids involved.
- A follow up contact was made with Robin Clark. Robin is the forester who helped put together the Community Wildland Interface Fire Protection Plan for Salt Spring Island, back in November 2005. Mr Clarke has now provided an update to the original plan.

- We installed one smoke alarms this month and continue to receive calls regarding them. A provincial initiative has been set – up, and we can now recycle smoke alarms at the SSI Recycling Center.
- Burning permits are required effective April 15th each year until October 15th each year. They are good until April 15th of the following year before renewal is required for all classes of burning except Class 3. Permits can be obtained (for free) at the Ganges Fire Station during regular office hours. Category 3 Machine piles require an inspection prior to a permit being authorized during anytime of the year. All classifications of fire burning are open for burning.
- Chief requests an “In Camera” session relating to; (Property & Legal) items.